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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/818,161	SALEM ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Terrence R. Till	1744	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the RCE filed 4/6/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 77-106.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 27 March 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>4/6/04</u> | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 100, line 14, "said" has been replaced with --a--. This has been done to establish proper antecedent basis.

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: With respect to claim 77, the prior art (including the most recently cited) does not disclose nor render obvious the claimed combination of a detection system for a suction cleaner comprising a first sensor mounted to the cleaner and positioned to detect the moisture-level of a cleaning surface; a circuit electrically connected to the first sensor for generating a first control signal in response to the detected moisture level of the cleaning surface; a tank removably mounted to said suction cleaner for containing liquid; a second sensor mounted to the cleaner to detect when the liquid of said tank reaches a predetermined level, said second sensor being a pressure switch responsive to a pressure level associated with said predetermined liquid level in said tank; wherein said circuit is electrically connected to the second sensor for generating a second control signal in response to the detected liquid level of said tank and; a device responsive to said second control signal for indicating when the liquid of said tank reaches a predetermined level. With respect to claim 80, the prior art (including the most recently cited) does not disclose nor render obvious the claimed

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combination of a detecting system for a suction cleaner, said suction cleaner having a recovery tank for holding extracted liquid, said detecting system comprising; a sensor operatively connected to said recovery tank to detect when the liquid of said recovery tank reaches a predetermined level, said sensor including a pressure switch responsive to a pressure level associated with said predetermined liquid level in said recovery tank; a circuit electrically connected to said sensor for generating a control signal in response to said pressure level of said recovery tank; and a device responsive to said control signal for indicating when the liquid of said tank reaches a predetermined level. With respect to claim 85, the prior art (including the most recently cited) does not disclose nor render obvious the claimed combination of a detecting system for a suction cleaner said suction cleaner having a recovery tank for holding extracted liquid, said detecting system comprising a sensor operatively connected to said recovery tank to detect when the liquid of said recovery tank reaches a predetermined level, said sensor including a pressure switch responsive to a pressure level associated with said predetermined liquid level in said recovery tank; a circuit electrically connected to said sensor for generating a control signal in response to said pressure level of said recovery tank; and wherein said circuit includes a microprocessor for outputting said control signal. With respect to claim 87, the prior art (including the most recently cited) does not disclose nor render obvious the claimed combination of a detecting system for a suction cleaner, said suction cleaner having a recovery tank for holding extracted liquid, said detecting system comprising a first sensor operatively connected to said recovery tank to detect when the liquid of said recovery tank reaches a predetermined level, said sensor including a pressure switch responsive to a pressure level associated with said predetermined liquid level in said recovery tank; a circuit electrically connected to said first

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sensor for generating a first control signal in response to said pressure level of said recovery tank; a suction conduit assembly in fluid communication with said recovery tank for transporting said cleaning solution and dirt into said recovery tank; and wherein said first sensor is mounted to said suction conduit assembly. With respect to claim 95, the prior art (including the most recently cited) does not disclose nor render obvious the claimed combination of a detecting system for a suction cleaner, said suction cleaner having a recovery tank for holding extracted liquid, said detecting system comprising a sensor operatively connected to said recovery tank to detect when the liquid of said recovery tank reaches a predetermined level, said sensor including a pressure switch responsive to a pressure level associated with said predetermined liquid level in said recovery tank; a circuit electrically connected to said sensor for generating a control signal in response to said pressure level of said recovery tank; and a switching transistor being operatively connected to said lamp and said circuit, wherein said circuit outputs said control signal to turn on said switching transistor which causes said lamp to illuminate. With respect to claim 98, the prior art (including the most recently cited) does not disclose nor render obvious the claimed combination of a detecting system for a suction cleaner, said suction cleaner having a recovery tank for holding extracted liquid, said detecting system comprising; a sensor operatively connected to said recovery tank to detect when the liquid of said recovery tank reaches a predetermined level, said sensor including a pressure switch responsive to a pressure level associated with said predetermined liquid level in said recovery tank; a circuit electrically connected to said sensor for generating a control signal in response to said pressure level of said recovery tank; and wherein said circuit comprises an oscillator circuit. With respect to claim 100, the prior art (including the most recently cited) does not disclose nor render obvious the

claimed combination of a detecting system for a suction cleaner comprising: a first sensor mounted to the cleaner and positioned to detect the moisture level of a cleaning surface; a circuit electrically connected to the first sensor for generating a first control signal in response to the detected moisture level of the cleaning surface; a tank removably mounted to said suction cleaner for containing liquid; a second sensor mounted to the cleaner to detect when the liquid of said tank reaches a predetermined level; wherein said circuit is electrically connected to the second sensor for generating a second control signal in response to the detected liquid level of said tank; and a switching transistor being operatively connected to a lamp and said circuit, wherein said circuit outputs said second control signal to turn on said switching transistor which causes said lamp to illuminate. With respect to claim 103, the prior art (including the most recently cited) does not disclose nor render obvious the claimed combination of a detecting system for a suction cleaner comprising: a first sensor mounted to the cleaner and positioned to detect the moisture level of a cleaning surface; a circuit electrically connected to the first sensor for generating a first control signal in response to the detected moisture level of the cleaning surface; a tank removably mounted to said suction cleaner for containing liquid ; a second sensor mounted to the cleaner to detect when the liquid of said tank reaches a predetermined level; wherein said circuit is electrically connected to the second sensor for generating a second control signal in response to the detected liquid level of said tank; and wherein said circuit comprises an oscillator circuit. With respect to claim 105, the prior art (including the most recently cited) does not disclose nor render obvious the claimed combination of a detecting system for a suction cleaner comprising a first sensor mounted to the cleaner and positioned to detect the moisture level of a cleaning surface; a circuit electrically connected to the first sensor for generating a first control

signal in response to the detected moisture level of the cleaning surface; a tank removably mounted to said suction cleaner for containing liquid; a second sensor mounted to the cleaner to detect when the liquid of said tank reaches a predetermined level; and wherein said circuit is electrically connected to the second sensor for generating a second control signal in response to the detected liquid level of said tank, said circuit includes a microprocessor coupled to said first sensor and said second sensor.


2. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Terrence R. Till whose telephone number is (571) 272-1280. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. through Thurs. and every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert J. Warden can be reached on (571) 272-1281. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Terrence R. Till
Primary Examiner
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